

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER
U. S. WEATHER BUREAU,
May 10, 1917.—Last twenty-
four hours' rainfall, .99. Tem-
perature, Min. 72, Max. 81.
Weather clear.

Hawaiian Gazette

LATEST CABLED SUGAR QUOTATIONS
Cents Dollars
90° Centrifugal N. Y. per lb. per ton
Price, Hawaiian basis 6.37 \$125.40
Last previous quota-
tion..... 6.145 \$122.90

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HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1917.—SEMI-WEEKLY.

WHOLE NUMBER 4633

FOOD BUREAU NOW PLANNED TO CONTROL DISTRIBUTION

Suggestions Made By Herbert C. Hoover Receive Due Consideration From the Officials of the Washington Administration

MEASURES TO BE PUSHED THROUGH IN BOTH HOUSES

President Wilson and Secretary Houston Map Out Plan of Campaign For Getting the Necessary Legislation Immediately

NEW YORK, May 11.—Herbert C. Hoover, the food controller, issued a formal statement here last night in which he declared that there is no excuse for the present high cost of food. He added that without food control it is more than likely that flour will be selling at \$20 a barrel by this time next year, while with proper control of the speculators the price will be reduced from forty to fifty per cent of the existing prices. "There is no occasion for the present panic and absolutely no justification for the outrageous prices for food. The special interests must be defeated in their present effort to gain the power to do as they like under the existing conditions," said the statement.

WASHINGTON, May 11.—The suggestions made by Herbert C. Hoover, the food controller, asking for the creation of a food bureau or department with unlimited powers over the distribution of food as well as of food prices is being given careful consideration by the administration, it was learned last night.

There are now definite indications that the administration is planning to begin immediately the work of organizing for direct distribution of food. President Wilson yesterday held a lengthy conference with Secretary Houston and others of his cabinet on this subject, and it was intimated later that arrangements for pushing through as speedily as possible the administration's food measures are well under way.

The government's program for food control during the war was put before congress by Secretary Houston in a communication to the senate last month, asking power for the department of agriculture to take direct supervision of food production and distribution in the United States and requesting a \$25,000,000 appropriation for putting the plan into operation.

Authority was asked for the Council of National Defense, in an emergency, to buy and sell foodstuffs and to fix maximum or minimum prices.

As outlined to the senate the government's plan is first to make a complete survey of the country's food supply to determine its ownership and distribution, if necessary to license and control the operations of all concerns engaged in the manufacture of food or feeds, agricultural implements and all materials required for agricultural purposes.

Operation is Considered
Authority is sought for the agricultural department to take over and operate the concerns if that course is demanded by the public interest.

Giving the government power to deal directly in foodstuffs probably would make its application unnecessary, Secretary Houston declared, as its very existence would tend to keep conditions normal. He proposed that the government should have full discretion, saying it might be wise if an emergency arose to fix prices on a single commodity. Market grades and classes for farm products, Secretary Houston said, form one of the chief needs of the country to inspire proper conditions in producing and marketing farm products.

Authority also was asked for the

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DAVID F. HOUSTON, secretary of agriculture, who, with H. C. Hoover is doing all that he can to mobilize the food resources of the nation in behalf of the Entente Allies and to aid in defeating Germany.



DUTCH SHIP RYNDAM SAILS FROM HALIFAX

German and Austrian Diplomats Searched For Contraband

HALIFAX, May 11.—The Dutch steamer Ryndam, carrying the members of the suite of Count von Tarnowski, former Austrian ambassador to the United States, together with a number of German and Austrian diplomats to other countries which have broken off relations with the Central Powers, left this port yesterday after having been detained for some days in order that the British authorities might thoroughly search the ship and the party for contraband.

GERMAN DESTROYERS CHASED BY BRITISH

LONDON, May 10.—Early today a British force of light cruisers and destroyers chased eleven German destroyers and engaged them in a running fight at long range but were unable to overtake them.

Reports from the British fleet declare that a number of the German ships were more or less damaged by the gun fire of their pursuers and with difficulty managed to escape to Zeebrugge.

FLAMES DAMAGE CUPOLA OF NEW YORK CITY HALL

NEW YORK, May 10.—The cupola of the historic city hall caught fire today and a large number of firemen were called to the scene to quell the flames. Considerable damage was done, the fire later being put out. The cupola is more than 100 years old.

UNION PACIFIC GRANTS ADDITIONAL DIVIDENDS

NEW YORK, May 10.—The Union Pacific Railroad Company today declared an extra dividend of one and one-half per cent on the common stock, in addition to the regular two per cent.

HAITI DECIDES NOT TO GO TO WAR WITH KAISER

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti, May 11.—The commission which has been sitting to decide the action of Haiti in regard to the war has decided that no declaration of war against Germany shall be made, but that severing of diplomatic relations with the Kaiser would be sufficient.

Austrian Steamers Bought By Uncle Sam To Aid Allies

Seven Great Ships Ready For Immediate Service In Cause of Humanity Cost This Government Six and Three-quarter Million of Dollars

WASHINGTON, May 11.—Seven Austrian steamers with a total displacement of 34,304 tons have been purchased by the shipping board for immediate use. These vessels were not damaged at the outbreak of the war, as were the German ships, and can be made ready for service within a short time. The price paid for them was slightly less than one million dollars apiece, the total sum being \$6,778,000. A. T. Herd and George A. Carden of New York, who had options and claims against the vessels turned their claims over to the government without asking profit for them. The steamers are the Doris, 4036 tons, the Ida, 3096 tons, the Erny, 4171 tons, the Anna, 3088 tons, the Clara, 2541 tons, the Teresa, 2381 tons and the Lucia, 4386 tons. All of the vessels save the Teresa and the Lucia are at New York. The Teresa is at New Orleans and the Lucia at Pensacola. It is expected that arrangements will be made for making the repairs necessary to the ships and fitting them out for service immediately.

SELECTIVE DRAFT WINS OUT AFTER BITTER STRUGGLE

Conference Report Sets Age Limits For Conscription—Measure Not Out of Woods

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Tonight a fight is developing over the selective draft or army conscription bill, after an agreement had been reached by the senate and house conferees and the bill apparently had clear sailing. Congressmen Anthony of Kansas and Julius Kahn of California, Republicans, announced this evening that they will refuse to sign the conference report. Congressman Anthony is opposed to it because of the elimination of the amendment which would allow Colonel Roosevelt to raise an army for France. Kahn is opposed because of the prohibition sections. He maintains that he does not approve of making the United States appear as either a drunken or immoral nation.

The conferees on the new army bill, today reached an agreement which was reported immediately to the respective bodies. The age limits under the selective draft plan was compromised between the two conference committees. The agreement is that the draft shall apply only to men between the ages of 21 to 30. The house wanted 21 to 40 and the senate 21 to 27.

Two important amendments proposed to the bill were killed by the conferees. One of these would have allowed Col. Roosevelt, who is out of active service and long past the regular army age limit, to raise four divisions for service in France.

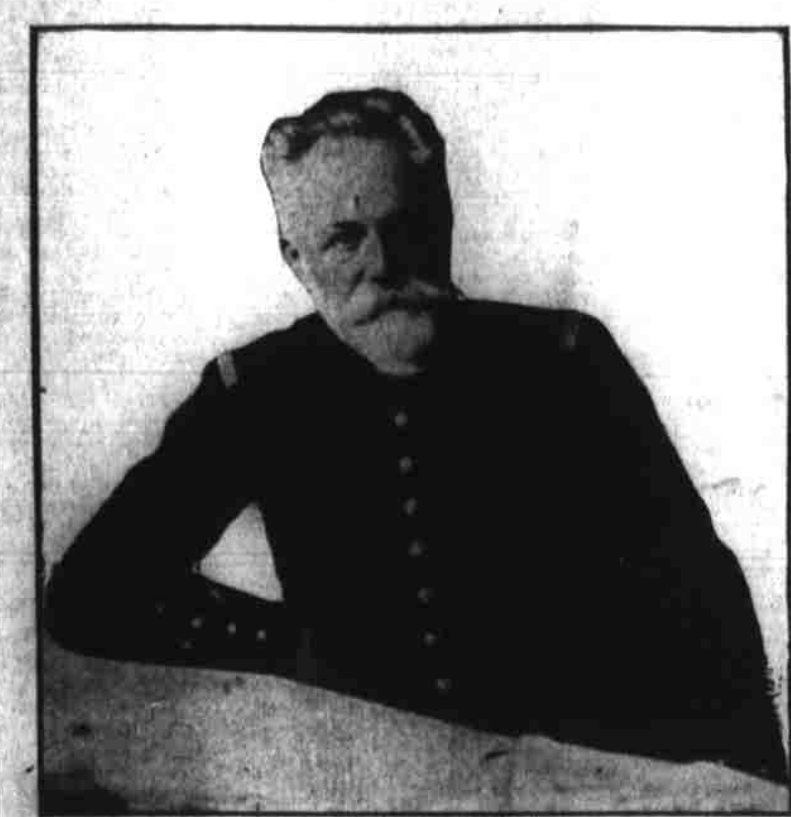
The other would have allowed the raising of three volunteer regiments for duty as a border patrol along the Mexican lines. Both have been eliminated. The elimination of the Roosevelt amendment is expected to arouse opposition in the senate especially. It is believed that the conference agreement will be so modified that liquor, wine or beer may not be sold on military reservations but that it will not be declared unlawful to give or sell intoxicants to men in uniform.

The general staff officers approve of the agreement reached by the conferees which calls for the total elimination of the volunteer system.

AUSTRIA SEEKING SEPARATE PEACE

LONDON, May 11.—Despatches to the Exchange Telegraph from Amsterdam yesterday announced that that news gathering agency has learned on "good authority" that three prominent Austrian politicians are about to leave for Switzerland with peace proposals. It is hoped that they will be given safe conduct to visit Paris, where they are expected to discuss terms of a separate peace with Austria with members of the French cabinet.

GENERAL SARRAIL, the French soldier, who is in command of the Entente allied forces in Macedonia, which yesterday began a heavy offensive against the combined Turkish and Teutonic armies between Monastir and Lake Doiran.



SENATE COMMITTEE TO RAISE PAY OF JACKIES

Approves of House Bill Increasing Navy and Marine Corps

WASHINGTON, May 11.—The senate naval committee yesterday formally approved of the house bill, providing for an increase in the personnel of the enlisted force of the navy to 150,000 men and of the Marine Corps to 30,000. It also included an amendment providing that the pay of the men in both branches shall not be less than \$25 a month.

OFFICER OF GERMANY ARRESTED AS DESERTER

Lieut. Frank M. Wolf Interned By Authorities

WASHINGTON, May 10.—Lieut. Frank M. Wolf, alias Frank Fels, who deserted from the United States aviation corps at San Diego, and who is said to be a lieutenant in the German army, has been arrested here and interned by the federal authorities.

TANKER SEBASTIAN SINKS ON TOW LINE

BOSTON, May 11.—The British tanker Sebastian, which was picked up in distress off the coast of Massachusetts some days ago and was being towed to port by an American gunboat, sank at the end of the tow line yesterday, according to radio despatches from the gunboat. The tow was being made to an unnamed New England port. Thomas Jones, a gunner who was on board the tanker, was drowned.

HOSPITAL SHIPS SUNK SINCE AIRPLANE RAIDS

LONDON, May 11.—British hospital ships have been sunk by German submarines since British airplanes raided the town of Freiburg as a reprisal for previous sinkings. Bonar Law told the house of commons today.

RECRUITS SINCE APRIL NUMBER 61,282 MEN

WASHINGTON, May 11.—A total of 61,282 men is the recruiting figure since April, it was officially stated today.

GOVERNMENT TAKES OVER COAL COMPANY

Miners Strike and Action Follows Failure To Agree

WASHINGTON, May 11.—The federal government today took over the mines of the Stineman Coal Company here and stationed soldiers on the property. The miners had struck for more money. The action taken by the government, forecasts similar action elsewhere, in case the miners and operators fail to reach an agreement in a labor dispute.

MINERS PAY RAISED

PLOT TO ASSASSIN VENIZELOS EXPOSED

LONDON, May 10.—News reached here today that nine men have been arrested in Greece charged with conspiracy to assassinate Venizelos, former premier and leader of the pro-ally wing. The despatch came from Salonika.

AMERICAN PRISONERS STILL IN GERMANY

WASHINGTON, May 10.—One hundred and twenty-seven Americans are still prisoners in Germany, according to the state department. They have probably been taken off ships captured by German raiders.

THREE PRISON BARRACKS COMPLETED BY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, May 11.—The war department announced yesterday that plans for the establishment of a war prison and barracks at Fort McPherson, Fort Oglethorpe in Georgia and at Fort Douglas, Arizona have been completed. These prisons will be under the immediate direction of the adjutant general.

SINN FEINER ELECTED MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

LONDON, May 11.—Joseph McGuinnis, a member of the Sinn Fein Society, has been elected a member of the house of commons from Londonderry, Ireland, at a special election to fill a vacancy.

RUSSIA ALSO SENDING MISSION TO UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, May 11.—Russia is following the example of England and France in sending a mission to the United States, it was given out today.

HOT FIGHTING COSTS TEUTON MORE GROUND IN MACEDONIA

Entente Armies Hurled Themselves Against Their Foes, Breaking Through First Lines of Trenches in Many Places

BULGARS FORCED BACK BY FIERCE BRITISH ATTACKS

Germans Continue Their Efforts To Regain the Vital Positions They Have Lost To Haig On the Western Fighting Front

NEW YORK, May 11.—From the western front the center of interest veered yesterday to the front in Macedonia, where the Allies began a tremendous assault upon the lines held by the composite Bulgar-Turk-German armies. From Lake Ochrid to Lake Doiran the battle flared up suddenly and furiously, with the Allies the aggressors everywhere. In the famous Cerna River bend the Russians, who have been holding the lines for months, attacked and drove the enemy out of their trench positions over a wide front, while southwest of Lake Doiran, on the other end of the long line, the British succeeded in wresting from the Bulgarians the first line of the trenches over a two-mile front.

Northwest of Monastir there has been heavy artillery operation as well as more or less infantry activity. In the French sectors the fighting continued with unabated fury yesterday, the Germans keeping up their almost desperate efforts to win back some of the vital ground they have lost north of Queant, on the celebrated Wotan line. From Fresnoy to a point well east of Bullecourt the British held fast, beating back the constant assaults with their heavy guns and machine guns, so that the attacking waves hardly ever reached their trenches.

East of Bullecourt the Germans are now struggling to prevent the complete fracture of the southern end of their line from Queant to Drocourt, the positions upon which depend the safety of the Cambrai positions. Farther to the north, in the vicinity of Lens the British attacked again yesterday and succeeded in capturing more of the German positions and advancing their own line. There has been a comparative calm all along the French fronts south and east of the British battle.

Despatches from Berlin reported that "a fluctuating fight" for the possession of Bullecourt, on the Hindenburg line, is now in progress. Paris, reported that fortified positions on Vaucourt plateau were captured by the French. German counter attacks at several points were repulsed.

MAURICE SAYS GUNS WILL WIN AT ARRAS
LONDON, April 30.—The outstanding feature of the second phase of the battle of Arras is the definite establishment of superiority in artillery and in aviation by the British. It is due to this superiority that they have been able to maintain a successful offensive, said Major-General Maurice, chief director of military operations at the United States, it was given out today.

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